

HIS MAJESTIES ANSWER,

To a Book, intituled,
The Declaration, or Remon-
strance of the Lords and
Commons, *of the*
19. of May.
1642.



YORK:
Printed by ROBERT BARKER, Printer
to the Kings most Excellent Majestie: And
by the Assignes of JOHN BILL.
1642.



Errata.

- Page 2 line 7 for *to us*, reade *by us*.
Page 3 line 21 for *spirit* read *spirits*.
Page 14 line 13 for *those*, read *losse*.
Page 16 line 12 for *of thanks*, read *and thanks*.
Page 17 line 3 for *if some*, read *of some*.
Page 20 line 2 for *last*, read *least*.
Page 21 line 6 for *disorder*, reade *this Order*.
Page 31 line 21. for *at last*, reade *at least*.
Page 32 line 6 for *running*, reade *crying*.
Page 33 line 21 for *Kingston upon Thames*,
read *Kensington*.
Page 33 line 25 for *best*, read *last*.
Page 36 line 5 for *what Law*, read *that the Law*.

1847
The following is a list of the
names of the persons who
were present at the
meeting of the
Board of Directors
of the
Company, held on
the 1st day of
January, 1847.

Attest
Secretary



His Majesties Answer to a Book,
intituled, *The Declaration, or*
Remonstrance of the Lords and
Commons, of the 19. of May.



If we could be weary of
taking any pains for the
satisfaction of Our peo-
ple, and to undeceive
them of those specious
mischievous Insulations which are
daily instilled into them, to shake and
corrupt their loyalty and affection to
Us and Our Government, after so
full and ample Declaration of Our
Self and Intentions, and so full
and satisfactory answers to all such
matters as have been objected to Us
by a major part present of both Hou-
ses of Parliament, we might well
give over this labour of Our Pen,
and sit still, till it shall please God so
to enlighten the Affections and Un-
derstandings

derstandings of Our good Subjects
 on Our behalf (which we doubt not
 but that in his good time he will do)
 that they may see Our sufferings are
 their sufferings. But, since instead of
 applying themselves to the Method
 proposed to Us, of making such solid
 particular Propositions as might esta-
 blish a good Understanding between
 Us, or of following the advice of
 Our Councell of Scotland (with whom
 they communicate their affairs) in
 forbearing all means that may make
 the breach wider and wound deeper,
 they have chosen to pursue Us with
 new Reproaches, or rather to continue
 and improve the old, by adding and
 varying little Circumstances and
 Language, in matters formerly ur-
 ged by them, and fully answered by
 Us, we prevailed with Our Self,
 upon very mature and particular con-
 sideration of it, to answer the late
 printed Book, intituled, A Declaration
 or Remonstrance of the Lords and Com-
 mons, which was ordered the nine-
 teenth

teenth of May last to be printed and published, hoping then that they would put Us to no more of this trouble, but that that should have been the last of such a nature they would have communicated to Our people, and that they would not, as they have done since, thought fit to assault us with a Newer Declaration, indeed of a very new Nature and Learning, which must have another Answer. And we doubt not but that Our good Subjects, in short time, will be so well instructed in the differences, and mistakings between Us, that they will plainly discern, without resigning their reason and understanding to Our Prerogative, or the infallibility of a now major part of both Houses of Parliament (infected by a few malignant spirit) where the fault is.

Though we shall with humility and allacrity be allwayes forward to acknowledge the infinite Mercy and Providence of Almighty God, vouchsafed so many severall wayes to Our

Self and this Nation, yet since God himself doth not allow, that we should fancy and create dangers to Our Self, that we might manifest and publish his Mercy in Our deliberance, we must professe we do not know those deliberances mentioned in the beginning of that Declaration, from so many wicked Plots and Designes since the beginning of this Parliament, which, if they had taken effect, would have brought ruine and destruction upon this Kingdom. We well know the great labour and skill hath been used to amaze and afright Our good Subjects with fears and apprehensions of Plots and Conspiracies, the severall Pamphlets published, and Letters scattered up and down full of such ridiculous contemptible Animadversions to that purpose, as (though they found, for what end God knows, very unusuall countenance) no sober man would be moved with them: But we must confesse, we have never been
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able to inform Our Self of any such pernicious formed designe against the Peace of this Kingdom since the beginning of this Parliament, as is mentioned in that Declaration, or might be any Warrant to those great Fears both Our Houses of Parliament seemed to be transported with, but we have great cause to beleve more mischief and danger hath been raised and begotten to the disturbance of this Kingdom, then cured or prevented by those Fears and Jealousies: And therefore however the rumour and discourse of Plots and Conspiracies may have been necessary to the designs of particular men, they shall do well not to pay any false devotions to Almighty God, who discerns whether Our dangers are real or pretended.

For the bringing up of the Army to London, as we have heretofore (by no other direction then the testimony of a good conscience) called God to witnesse we never had, or knew of any such Resolution,

solution, so upon the view of the Depositions now published with that Declaration, it is not evident to Us there was ever such a Designe, unlesse very loose Discourse or Argument be instance enough of such a Designe: And it is apparent, that what was said of it, was neer three moneths before the discovery to both Houses of Parliament, so that if there were any danger threatened that way, it vanished without any resistance or prevention, by the Will, Power, or Authority of them.

It seems the intention of that Declaration (whatsoever other end it hath) is to Answer a Declaration they received from Us, in Answer to that which was presented to Us at New-market the ninth of March last; and likewise to Our Answer to the Petition of both Houses, presented to Us at York, the twentieth six of March last. But before that Declaration falls upon any particulars of Our said Declaration or Answer, it complains, That the heads of the Malignant Party have

have with much Art and Industry advised Us to suffer divers unjust Scandals and Imputations upon the Parliament, to be published in our Name, whereby they might make it odious to the people, and by their help destroy it: But not instancing in any one Scandal or imputation so published by Us, we are still to seek for the Heads of that Malignant Partie. But Our good Subjects will easily understand, That if we were guilty of that Aspersion, we must not onely be active in raising the Scandal, but passive in the Offence begotten by that Scandal, we being an essentiall part of the Parliament: and we hope the just defence of Our Self, and Our Authority, and the necessary vindication of Our Innocence and Justice, from the Imputation laid on Us by a major part, then present of either, or both Houses, shall no more be called a Scandal upon the Parliament, then the opinion of such a part be reputed an Act of Parliament: And we hope Our

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good Subjects Will not be long misled by that common expression in all the Declarations (Wherein they usurpe the word Parliament, and apply it to countenance any Resolution or Vote) some few have a minde to make, by calling it, The Resolution of Parliament, which can never be without Our consent, Neither can the Vote of either, or both Houses, make a greater alteration in the Lawes of this Kingdom (so solemnly made by the advice of their Predecessours, with the concurrence of Us and Our Ancestours) either by countstanding or inhibiting any thing (besides the known Rule of the Law) then Our single Direction or Mandate can do, to which we do not ascribe the Authority.

But that Declaration informs Our People that the Malignant party hath drawn Us into the Northern parts far from Our Parliament. It might more truly and properly have said, That it hath driven, then drawn Us hither. For we confesse, Our Journey

Journey hither (for which we have no other reason to be sorry, then with reference to the cause of it) was onely forced upon Us by the true Malignant Party which contrived and countenanced those barbarous Tumults and other seditious Circumstances of which we have so often complained, and hereafter shall say more, and which indeed threatens so much danger to Our Person, and laid so much scandall upon the whole Priviledge and Dignity of Parliament, that we wonder it can be mentioned without Blushes or Indignation: But of that anon. But Why the Malignant Party should be charged with causing a Presse to be transported to York, we cannot imagine, neither have any Papers or Writings issued from thence, to Our knowledge, but what have been extorted from Us by such provocations, as have not been before offered to a King. And no doubt it will appear a most triviall and fond Exception, when all Presses are open to

vent whatsoever they thinke fit to say to the people, (a thing unbarranted by former custome) that we should not make use of all lawfull means to publish Our just and necessary Answers thereunto. As for the authoritie of the great Seal (though we do not know that it hath been necessary to things of this nature) the same shall be more frequently used hereafter, as occasion shall require, to which we make no doubt the greater and better part of Our Privy Councell will concur, and whose Advice we are resolved to follow, as far as it shall be agreeable to the good and Welfare of the Kingdom.

Before that Declaration vouchsafes to insist on any particulars, it is pleased to censure both Our Declaration and Answer, to be filled with harsh Censures, and causelesse Charges upon the Parliament, (still mis-applying the word Parliament to the Vote of both Houses) concerning which they resolve to give satisfaction to the Kingdom,

dom, since they finde it very difficult to satisfie Us. If, as in the usage of the word Parliament, they have left Us out of their thoughts; so by the word Kingdom, they intend to exclude all Our people, who are out of their walls: (for that's grown another Phrase of the Time, the Vote of the major part of both houses, & sometimes of one, is now called, The Resolution of the whole Kingdom) We beleve it may not be hard to give satisfaction to themselves; otherwise we are confident (and Our confidence proceeds from the uprightness of Our own Conscience) they will never be able so to sever the affections of Us and Our Kingdom, that what cannot be satisfaction to the one, shall be to the other. Neither will the stile of humble, and Faithfull, and telling Us, That they will make Us a Great and Glorious King, in their petitions and Remonstrances, so deceive Our good Subjects, that they will passe over the Reproaches, Threats, and Menaces:

res they are stuffed with, which sure could not be more gently reprehended by Us, then by saying, Their expressions were different from the usuall Language to Princes, which that Declaration tells you, we had no occasion to say. But we beleebe, who soever looks over that Declaration presented to Us at Newmarket, to which Durs was an Answer, will finde the Language thorowout it, to be so unusuall, that, before this Parliament, it could never be paralleld, whiles under pretence of justifying their fears, they give so much countenance to the discourse of the Rebels of Ireland, as if they had a minde Our good Subjects should give credit to it: Otherwile, being warranted by the same evidence, which they have since published, they would have as well declared, That those Rebels publicly threaten the rooting out the name of the English, and that they will have a King of their own, and no longer be governed by Us, as that they

they say, That they do nothing but by
 Our Authority, and that they call
 themselves, The Queens Army. And
 therefore we have great reason to com-
 plain of the absence of Justice and In-
 tegrity in that Declaration; besides the
 unsittesse of other expressions. Nei-
 ther did we mistake the Substance or
 Logick of the Message to Us at The-
 obalds, concerning the Militia, which
 was no other, and is stated to be no
 other (even by that Declaration
 which reproved Us) then a plain
 threat, That if we refused to joyn
 with them, they would make a Law
 without Us: nor hath the practice
 since that time been other, which will
 never be justified to the most ordinary
 (if not partiall) Understandings, by
 the meer averring it to be according
 to the fundamentall Laws of this
 Kingdom, without giving any directi-
 on, that the most cunning and learned
 men in the Laws may be able to finde
 those foundations. And we must ap-
 peal to all the world, whether they
 might

might not with as much Justice, and
 by as much Law, have seized upon the
 estate of every Member of both Hou-
 ses, who discented from that pretended
 Ordinance (which much the major
 part of the House of Peers did two
 or three severall times) as they have
 invaded that Power of Ours over the
 Militia, because we (upon Reasons
 they have not so much as pretended to
 answer) refused to consent to that
 Proposition: And if no better effects
 then those of Time and hinderance of
 the publike Affairs have been found
 by Our Answers and Replies, let all
 good men judge, by whose default,
 and whose want of duty such effects
 have been: For as Our end (indeed
 onely end) in those Answers and Re-
 plies hath been, The settlement and
 composure of publike Affairs, so we
 are assured, and most men do beleve,
 That if that due Regard and Rebe-
 rence had been given to Our words,
 and that Consent and Obedience to
 Our counsels, which we did expect;
 there

there had been before this time a
cheerfull Calm upon the face of the
whole Kingdom, every man enjoy-
ing his own, with all possible Peace
and Security that can be imagined,
which surely those men do not desire,
who (after all those Acts of Justice
and Favour passed by Us this Par-
liament, all those Affronts and Suf-
ferings endured and undergone by
Us) think fit still to reproach Us
with Ship-Money, Coat and Con-
duct-Money, and other things so
abundantly declared (as that Decla-
ration it selfe confesses in the generall
Remonstrance of the State of the
Kingdom, published in November
last, which we wonder to finde now
avowed to be the Remonstrance of
both Houses, and which we assure
was presented to Us onely by the
House of Commons, and did never,
and we are confident; in that time,
could never have passed the House of
Peers; the Concurrence and Autho-
rity of which was not then thought
C necessary,

necessary. Shall we beleve those
 Reproaches to be the voyce of the
 Kingdom of England? That all Our
 loving Subjects eased, refreshed,
 strengthened, and abundantly satisfi-
 ed With Our Acts of Grace and Fa-
 vour towards them are Willing to be
 involved in these unthankfull expressi-
 ons: we must appeal to the Thanks
 and Acknowledgements published in
 the Petitions of most of the Counties
 of England; to the testimony of thanks
 we have receiv'd from both Houses
 of Parliament, how seasonable, how
 agreeable this usage of Us is to Our
 merit, or their former expressions.

we have not at all swarved or de-
 parted from Our Resolution, or
 words in the beginning of this Parlia-
 ment we said, we were resolved to
 put Our Self freely and clearly upon
 the Love and Affection of Our En-
 glish Subjects, and we say so still, as
 farre as concernes England. And we
 call Almighty God to witnesse, all
 Our Complaints and Jealousies,
 which

Which have never been causelesse, nor of Our Houses of Parliament (but of some few Schismaticall, Factionous, and Ambitious Spirits, and upon grounds, as short time, we fear, will justifie to the world) Our deniall of the Militia, Our absenting Our Self from London, have been the effects of an upright and faithfull Affection to Our English Subjects, that we may be able (through all the inconveniencies we are compelled to wrastle with) at last to preserve and restore their Religion, Lawes, and Liberties unto them.

Since the proceeding against the Lord Kimbolton, and the five Members, is still looked upon, and so often pressed, as so great an advantage against Us, that no retractation made by Us, nor no Actions since that time committed against Us, and the Law of the Land, under pretence of vindication of Priviledge, can satisfie the Contrivers of that Declaration, but that they would have Our good Sub-
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jects

jects beleeeve, The Accusation of those six Members must be a plot for the breaking the neck of the Parliament, (a strange Arrogance, if any of those Members had the penning of that Declaration) and that it is so often urged against Us, as if by that single casuall mistake of Ours (in form one ly) we had forfeited all Duty, Credit, and Allegiance from Our people: we must, without endeavouring to excuse that, which in truth was an error (Our going to the House of Commons) give Our people a cleer and full narration of the matter of Fact, assuring Our Self that Our good Subjects will not finde Our carriage in that businesse such as hath been reported.

When wee resolved upon such grounds, as when they shall be published will satisfie the world, That it was fit for Our own Safety, and Honour, and the Peace of the Kingdom, to proceed against those persons, though we well know there was no degree

degree of Priviledge in that case, yet
 (to shew Our desire of correspondency
 With the two Houses of Parliament)
 we chose, rather then to apprehend
 their persons by the ordinary Mini-
 sters of Justice (which, according to
 the Opinion and Practice of former
 times, we might have done) to com-
 mand Our Atturney Generall to ac-
 quaint Our House of Peers With
 Our intention, and the generall mat-
 ters of Our charge (which was yet
 more particular then a meer Accusa-
 tion) and to proceed accordingly, and
 at the same time sent a Worn Ser-
 vant, a Sergeant at Arms to Our
 House of Commons, to acquaint them,
 That we did accuse, & intended to pro-
 secute the five Members of that house
 for high Treason, and did require
 that their persons might be secured in
 custody: This we did, not onely to
 shew that we intended not to violate
 or invade their Priviledges, but to use
 more Ceremony towards them, then
 we then conceived in Justice might
 be

leaf
 be required of Us; and expected at
 last such an Answer as might inform
 Us, if we were out of the way; But
 we received none at all; Onely in the
 instant, Without offering any thing
 of their Priviledges to Our conside-
 ration, an Order was made (and the
 same night published in Print) That
 if any person whatsoever should of-
 fer to Arrest the person of any Mem-
 ber of that House, Without first ac-
 quainting that House therewith, and
 receivng further Order from that
 House, That it should be lawfull for
 such Members, or any person to as-
 sist them, and to stand upon his or
 their Guard of Defence, and to
 make resistance according to the Pro-
 testation taken to defend the Privi-
 ledges of Parliament: And this was
 the first time that we heard the
 Protestation might be wrested to such
 a sense; or that in any Case (though
 of the most undoubted and unquestio-
 nable Priviledge) it might be lawfull
 for any Person to resist, and use vio-
 lence

lence against a publike Minister of Ju-
 stice, armed with lawfull Authority;
 though we well knew, that even such
 a Minister might be punished for
 executing such Authority. Upon view-
 ing ^{to} ~~the~~ Order we must confesse we were
 somewhat amazed, having never seen
 or heard of the like, though we had
 known Members of either House
 committed without so much Formali-
 ty as we had used, and upon Crimes
 of a far inferiour nature to those we
 had suggested; and having no course
 proposed to Us for Our proceeding,
 we were upon the matter onely told,
 That against those Persons we were
 not to proceed at all; That they were
 above Our reach, or the reach of the
 Law, it was not easie for Us to re-
 solve what to do: If we imployed
 Our Ministers of Justice in the usu-
 all way for their apprehension (who
 without doubt would not have refused
 to execute Our lawfull Commands)
 we saw what Resistance and Oppo-
 sition was like to be made, which
 very

very probably might cost some blood;
 If we sat still and desisted upon this
 terrour, we should at the best have
 confessed Our own want of power,
 and the weaknesse of the Law: In
 this streight we put on a sudden Reso-
 lution, to try whether Our own pre-
 sence, and a cleer discovery of Our
 Intentions (Which haply might
 not have been so well understood)
 could remove those doubts, and pre-
 vent those Inconveniencies which
 seemed to have been threatned; and
 thereupon we resolved to go in Our
 own Person to Our House of Com-
 mons, which we discovered not till
 the very minute of Our going, when
 we sent out, That Our Servants,
 and such Gentlemen as were then in
 Our Court, should attend Us to West-
 minster; but giving them expresse com-
 mand (as we have expessed in Our
 Answer to the Ordinance) that no Ac-
 cidents or Provocation should draw
 them to any such Action as might
 imply a purpose of force in Us, and
 Our

Our Self (requiring those of Our Train not to come within the dooꝝ) went into the House of Commons: the bare doing of which we did not then conceive would have been thought more a breach of Priviledge, then if we had gone to the House of Peers, and sent for them to come to Us, which is the usuall custom. we used the best expressions we could to assure them how far we were from any Intention of violating their Priviledges, That we intended to proceed Legally and Speedily against the persons we had accused, and desired therefore, if they were in the House, that they might be delivered to Us, or if absent, that such course might be taken for their forth-coming as might satisfie Our just Demands; and so we departed, having no other purpose of force, if they had been in the House, then we have before protested, before God, in Our Answer to the Ordinance. You have an account of Our part of this Story fully, let Our people

ple judge freely of it : what followed on their part (though this Declaration tells you, It could not withdraw any part of their Reverence and Obedience from Us ; it may be any part of theirs it did not) We shall have too much cause hereafter to inform the World.

There will be no end of the Discourse, and upbraiding Us with evil Councellores, if upon Our constant deniall of knowing any, they will not vouchsafe to inform Us of them ; and after eight Moneths amusing the Kingdom with the expectation of a discovery of a Malignant Party, & of evil Councellores, they will not at last name any, nor describe them. Let the Actions and Lives of men be examined, who have Contrived, Counsell'd, Actually consented to grieve and burden Our people, and if such be about Us, or any against whom any notorious malicious Crime can be proved, if we shelter and protect any such, let Our Injustice be published to the World ;

World; but till that be done particularly and manifestly (for we shall never conclude any man, upon a bare generall Vote of the major part of either, or both Houses, till it be evident that major part must be without Passion or Affection) we must look upon the charge this Declaration puts on Us, of cherishing and countenancing a discontented Party of the Kingdom against them, as a heavier and unjust tax upon Our Justice and Honour, then any we have, or can lay upon the Framers of that Declaration.

And now, to countenance those un-
hansom Expressions, whereby usually they have implied Our countenance at, or want of Zeal against the Rebellion of Ireland, (so odious to all good men) they have found a new way of exprobration; That the Proclamation against those bloody Traytors, came not out till the beginning of January, though that Rebellion broke out in October, and then by spe-

shall Command from Us, but forty
 Copies were appointed to be printed.
 'Tis well known where we were at
 that time when that Rebellion brake
 forth, in Scotland: That we immedi-
 ately, from thence, recommended the
 care of that businesse to both Houses
 of Parliament here, after we had pro-
 vided for all fitting supplies from Our
 Kingdom of Scotland, that after Our
 return hither we observed all those
 Forms for that Service, which we
 were advised to by Our Councell of
 Ireland; or both Houses of Parliament
 here: And if no Proclamation issued
 out sooner (of which for the present
 we are not certain, but think that
 others before that time were issued by
 Our directions) it was, because the
 Lords Justices of the Kingdom desi-
 red them no sooner; and when they
 did, the number they desired was but
 twenty, which they advised might be
 signed by Us; which we, for expedi-
 tion of the Service commanded to
 be printed (a circumstance not requi-
 red.

red by them) and thereupon we Signed more of them then Our Justices desired: All which was very well known to some Members of one or both Houses of Parliament, who have the more to answer, if they forbore to expresse it at the passing of this Declaration; and if they did expresse it, we have the greater reason to complain, that so envious an Aspersion should be cast on Us to Our People, when they knew well how to answer their own Objection.

What that Complaint is against the Parliament, put forth in Our Name, which is such an evidence and countenance to the Rebels, and speaks the same language of the Parliament, which the Rebels do, we cannot understand. All Our Answers and Declarations have been, & are owned by Us, and have been attested under Our own Hand; If any other had been published in Our Name, and without Our Authority, it would be easie for both Houses of Parliament to disco-

ber and apprehend the Authors : And we wish, that whosoever was trusted with the Drawing and Penning of that Declaration, had no more Authority or cunning to impose upon, or deceive a major part of those Votes by which it passed, then any man hath to prevaile with Us, to publish in Our Name any thing but the Sense and Resolution of Our own Heart : Or that the Contriver of that Declaration could with as good a Conscience call God to Witnesse, that all his Counsels and Endeavours have been free from all private Aims, Personall Respects, or Passions whatsoever, as we have done and do, That we never had or knew of such Resolutions of bringing up the Army to London And since this new device is found out instead of Answering Our Reasons, or satisfying Our just Demands, to blast Our Declarations and Answers, as if they were not Our own (a bold senselesse imputation) we are sure that every Answer and Declaration
pub-

published by Us, is much more Our own, then any one of those bold, theatning, and reproachfull Petitions and Remonstrances are the Acts of either, or both Houses. And if the Penner of that Declaration had been carefull of the trust reposed in him, he would never have denied (and thereupon found fault With Our just Indignation) in the Text or Margent, That we had never been charged With the intention of any force, and that in their whole Declaration, there is no word tending to such a Reproach; The contrary Whereof is so evident, that we are in expresse terms charged in that Declaration, That we sent them gracious Messages, when, With Our Privy, bringing up the Army was in agitation. And even in this Declaration, they seek to make Our people beleeeve some such thing, to be proved in the Depositions now published, wherein, we doubt not, they will as much fast, as they do in their Censure of that Petition

titution shewed formerly to Us by Cap-
 tain Legg, and subscribed by Us with
 C. R. Which notwithstanding Our full
 and particular Narration of the sub-
 stance of that Petition, the circum-
 stances of Our seeing and approving
 it, this Declaration is pleased to say,
 was full of scandall to the Parlia-
 ment, and might have proved dan-
 gerous to the whole Kingdom. If
 they have this dangerous Petition
 in their hands, we have no reason
 to beleve any tendernesse to Usward
 hath kept them from communicating
 it; If they have it not, we ought to
 have been beleved: But that all
 good people may compute their other
 pretended dangers by their cleer un-
 derstanding of this, the noise where-
 of hath not been inferiour to any of
 the rest, we have recovered a true
 Copy of the very Petition we signed
 with C. R. Which shall in fit time be
 published, and which, we hope, will
 open the eyes of Our good people.
 Concerning Our warrant for Ma-
 ster

ster Jermyns passage, Our Answer was true and full; But for his black Satten Suit, and white Boots, we can give no account.

We complained in Our Declaration, and as often as we have occasion to mention Our return and residence neer London, we shall complain of the barbarous and seditious Tumults at Westminster and Whitehall, which indeed were so full of scandall to Our Government, and danger to Our Person, that we shall never think of Our return thither, till we have Justice for what is past, and security for the time to come. And if there were so great a necessity, or desire of Our return as is pretended in all this time, upon so often pressing Our Desires, and upon causes so notorious, we should at last have procured some Order for the future. But that Declaration tells Us, we are upon the matter mistaken, The resort of the Citizens to Westminster, was as lawfull as the resort of great numbers

at least

bers every day in the Terme to the or-
 dinary Courts of Justice. They knew
 no Tumults, Strange! was the
 disorderly appearance of so many thou-
 sand people with Staves and Swords
 running thorow the streets, Westmin-
 ster Hall, the passage between both
 Houses (in so much as the Members
 could hardly passe to and fro) No Bi-
 shops, Doffen with the Bishops, no
 Tumults: what Member is there of
 either Houses that saw not those num-
 bers, and heard not those cries: And
 yet lawfull Assemblies: were not se-
 verall Members of either House as-
 faulted, threatued, and all intreated:
 And yet no Tumults: why made
 the House of Peers a Declaration,
 and sent it down to the House of Com-
 mons, for the suppressing of Tu-
 mults, if there were no Tumults:
 And if there were any, why was not
 such a Declaration consented to and
 published: when the attempts were
 so visible, and the threats so loud to
 pull down the Abbey at Westminster,
 had

crying

had not the cause to apprehend, That
 such people might continue their work
 to Whitehall: Yet no Tumults. what
 a strange time are we in, That a few
 Impudent, Malicious (to give them
 no worse terme) men should cast such
 a strange mist of error before the
 eyes of both Houses of Parliament,
 as that they either cannot, or will not
 see how manifestly they injure them-
 selves, by maintaining these visible
 untruths: we say no more; By the
 help of God and the Law, we will
 have Justice for those Tumults.

From excepting (how weightily let
 every man judge) to what we have
 said, that Declaration proceeds to
 censure Us for what we have not
 said, for the prudent Omissions in
 Our Answer: we forbore to say any
 thing of the words spoken at Kingston
upon Thames; or the Articles against
 Our dearest Consort; and of the Ac-
 cusation of the six Members: Of the
 best we had spoken often, and we
 thought enough of the other two; ha-

Kennington

bing never accused any (though God knows what truth there might be in either) we had no reason to give any particular Answer.

we do not reckon Our Self bereaved of any part of Our Prerogative, which we are pleased freely, for a time, to part with by Bill; yet we must say, we expressed a great trust in Our two Houses of Parliament, when we divested Our Self of the Power of dissolving this Parliament, which was a just, necessary, and proper Prerogative: But we are glad to hear their Resolution, that it shall not encourage them to do any thing, which otherwise had not been fit to have been done: If it do, it will be such a breach of Trust, God will require an Account for at their hands.

For the Militia, we have said so much in it heretofore; and the point is so well understood by all men, that we will waste time no more in that dispute. we never said, There was no such thing as an Ordinance (though

(though we know that they have been long dis-used) but that there was never any Ordinance, or can be without the Kings consent; and that is true: and the unnecessary President cited in the Declaration, doth not offer to prove the contrary: But enough of that, God and the Law must determine that business.

Neither hath this Declaration given Us any satisfaction, concerning the Votes of the fifteenth and sixteenth of March last, which we must declare, and appeal to all the World in the point, to be the greatest violation of Our Priviledge, the Law of the Land, the Liberty of the Subject, and the Right of Parliament that can be imagined. One of those Votes is (and there needs no other to destroy the King and People) That when the Lords and Commons ('tis well the Commons are admitted to their part in Judicature) shall declare what the Law of the Land is, the same must be assented to, and

obeyed; that is the sense in few
 words. Where is every mans Pro-
 perty, every mans Liberty: If a
 major part of both Houses declare
 what Law is, that the younger Bro-
 ther shall inherit, what's become of
 all the Families and Estates in the
 Kingdom: If they declare, That
 by the Fundamentall Law of the
 Land, such a rash Action, such an
 unadvised word ought to be punished
 by perpetuall Imprisonment, is not
 the Libertie of the Subject, Durant
 bene placito, remedlesse: That De-
 claration confesseth, They pretend not
 to a Power of making new Laws,
 That, without Us, they cannot do
 that: They need no such Power,
 if their Declaration can suspend this
 Statute from being obeyed or execu-
 ted, and make this Order, which is
 no Statute, to be obeyed and exe-
 cuted. If they have Power to de-
 clare the Lord Digbys waiting on Us
 to Hampton Court, and thence visiting
 some Officers at Kingston, with a
 Coach

Law.

Coach and six horses, to be leading
 of war, and High Treason: And
 Sir John Hothams defying Us to Our
 face, keeping Our Town, Fort, and
 Goods against Us, by force of Arms,
 to be an Act of Affection and Loy-
 alty, what needs a power of making
 new Laws: Or is there such a thing
 as Law left: we desire Our good
 Subjects to mark the Reason and
 Consequence of these Votes, the pro-
 gresse they have already made, and
 how infinite that progreſſe may be.
 First, they Vote the Kingdom is in
 imminent danger (it is above three
 moneths since they discerned it) from
 Enemies abroad, and a Popish and
 Discontented Party at home; That
 is matter of Fact; the Law fol-
 lows: This Vote hath given them
 Authority by Law (the fundamen-
 tal Laws of the Kingdom) to or-
 der and dispose of the Militia of the
 Kingdom, and with this power,
 and to prevent that danger, to enter
 into Our Towns, seize upon Our
 Magazine,

Magazine, and by force, keep both from Us: Is not this Our case? First, they Vote we have an intention to leavy War against Our Parliament; that's matter of Fact: Then they declare, Such as shall assist Us, to be guilty of high Treason; that is the Law, and proved by two Statutes, themselves know to be repealed: No matter for that; They declare it. Upon this ground they exercise the Militia, and so actually do that upon Us, which they have voted we intend to do upon them: who doth not see the confusion that must follow upon such a power of declaring? If they should now vote, That we did not write this Declaration, but that such a one did it, which is still matter of fact; and then declare, That for so doing, he is an Enemy to the Common-Wealth; what is become of the Law that man was born to? And if all their Zeal for the defence of the Law, be but to defend that which they declare to be Law, their own Votes,

Votes, it will not be in their power to satisfy any man of their good intentions to the publique Peace, but such who are willing to relinquish his title to Magna Charta, and hold his life and fortune by a Vote of a major part of both Houses: In a word, we deny not but they may have a power to declare in a particular doubtfull case regularly brought before them, what Law is; but to make a generall Declaration, whereby the known Rule of the Law may be crossed or altered they have no power, nor can exercise any, without bringing the Life and Liberty of the Subject to a lawlesse and arbitrary subjection.

we complained (and let the world judge the Justice and necessity of that Complaint) of the multitude of Seditious Pamphlets and Sermons. And that Declaration tells Us, They know we have wayes enough in Our ordinary Courts of Justice to punish those: So we have to punish Tumults and Riots, and yet they will
 F not

not serbe Our turn to keep Our
 Towns, Our Forests, and Parks
 from violence. And it may be, though
 those Courts have still the power to
 punish, they may have lost the skill to
 define what Riots and Tumults are;
 otherwise a Jury in Southwark, legal-
 ly impanelled to examine a Riot there,
 would not have been Superseded, and
 the Sheriffe enjoyned not to proceed,
 by vertue of an Order of the House
 of Commons: Which, it seems at that
 time, had the sole power of declaring.
 But it is no wonder, That they who
 could not see the Tumults, do not con-
 sider the Pamphlets and Sermons,
 though the Author of the Protestation
 protested, be well known to be Burton
 (that infamous Disturber of the peace
 of this Church and State) and that he
 preached it at Westminster, in the hear-
 ing of others Members of the House
 of Commons: But of such Pam-
 phlets, and seditious preachers (be-
 yers whereof have been recommend-
 ed, if not imposed upon severall pa-
 rishes,

riches, by some Members of both Houses, by what Authority we know not) we shall hereafter take a further account.

we confesse, we have little skill in the Laws, and those that have had most, we now finde are much to seek: Yet we cannot understand or beleebe, That every ordinary Court, or any Court, hath power to raise what Guard they please, and under what Command they please; Neither can we imagine what dangerous effects they found by the Guard we appointed them, or (indeed) any the least occasion why they needed a Guard at all.

But of all the Imputations so causelessly and unjustly laid upon Us by that Declaration, we must wonder at that charge so apparantly and evidently untrue, That such are continually preferred & countenanced by Us, who are Friends or Favourers, or related unto the chief Authors and Actors of that Arbitrary power heretofore practised

and complained of : And on the other side, That such as did appear against it, are daily discountenanced and disgraced. wee would know one Person that contributed to the Ills of those Times, or had dependance upon those that did, whom we do, or lately have countenanced or preferred; Nay, we are confident (and we look for no other at their hands) as they have been allwayes most eminent Assertors of the publike Liberties, so if they found Us inclined to any thing not agreeable to Honour and Justice, they would leaue Us to morrow : whether different Persons have not, and do not receive countenance elsewhere, and upon what grounds, let all men Judge ; and whether we have not been forward enough to honour and prefer those of the most contrary opinion, how little comfort soever we have had of those preferments ; in bestowing of which, hereafter we shall be more guided by mens Actions then Opinions : And there-

therefore we had good cause to bestow that Admonition (for we assure you it was an Admonition of Our own) upon both Our Houses of Parliament, to take heed of inclining, under the specious shews of Necessity and Danger, to the exercise of such an Arbitrary power they before complained of: The Advice will do no harm, and we shall be glad to see it followed.

And are all the specious Promises, and loud Professions, Of making Us a Great and Glorious King, Of settling a greater Revenue upon Us, then any of Our Ancestors have enjoyed, Of making Us to be honoured at home, and Feared abroad, resolved into this, That they will be ready to settle Our Revenue, in an honourable Proportion, When we shall put Our Self in such a Posture of Government that Our Subjects may be secure to enjoy Our just Protection for their Religion, Laws, and Liberties: What Posture of Government

F 3

verment they intend we know not; nor can we imagine what Security Our good Subjects can desire for their Religion, Laws, and Liberties, which we have not offered, or fully given. And is it futable to the duty and dignity of both Houses of Parliament to Answer Our particula^r weighty Expressions of the Causes of Our Remove from London (so generally known to the Kingdom) With a Scoff, That they hope we were driven from thence, not by Our own Fears, but by the Fears of the Lord Digby, and his Retinue of Cavaliers: Sure the Penner of that Declaration inserted that ungrave and insolent Expression (as he hath done divers others) without the consent or examination of both Houses; who would not so lightly have departed from their former professions of duty to Us.

Whether the way to a good Understanding between Us and Our people hath been as zealously pressed by them, as it hath been professed and desired

desired by Us, will be easily discerned by those who observe, that we have left no publike Act undone on Our part, which, in the least degree, might be necessary to the Peace, Plenty, and Security of Our Subjects, and that they have not dispatched one Act which hath given the least evidence of their particular Affection and Kindnesse to Us: But on the contrary, have discountenanced and hindered the testimony other men would give to Us of their affections: witness the stopping and keeping back the Bill of Subsidies granted by the Clergy, almost a year since, which though Our personall Wants are so notoriously known, they will not, to this time, passe: So not ouely forbearing to supply Us themselves, but keeping the Love and Bounty of other men from Us, and afford no other Answers to all Our Desires, all Our Reasons (indeed not to be answered) then, That we must not make Our Understanding or Reason the Rule
of.

of Our government, but suffer Our Self to be assisted (which we never denied) by Our great Councell. we require no other Liberty to Our Will, then the meanest of them do (we wish they would alwayes use that Liberty) not to consent to any thing evidently contrary to Our Conscience and Understanding: and we have and shall alwayes give as much estimation and regard to the Advice and Counsell of both Our Houses of Parliament, as ever Prince hath done: But we shall never (and we hope Our people will never) account the contrivance of a few (Factious, Seditious persons, a Malignant Party, who would sacrifice the Common Wealth to their own fury and ambition) the Wisdom of Parliament, and that the justifying and defending such persons (of whom, and of their particular sinister wayes to compass their own bad ends, we shall shortly inform the world) is not the way to preserve Parliaments, but is the opposing

ling and preferring the consideration of a few unworthy persons, before their Duty to their King, or their care of the Kingdom. They would have Us remember that Our Resolutions do concern Kingdoms, and therefore not to be moulded by Our own Understanding: We well remember it; But we would have them remember, That when their Consultations endeavour to lessen the Office and Dignity of a King, they meddle with that which is not within their determination, and of which we must give an account to God and Our other Kingdoms, and must maintain with the sacrifice of Our life.

Lastly, that Declaration tells you of a present desperate and malicious Plot, the Malignant Party is now acting, under the plausible Notions of stirring Men up to a care of preserving the Kings Prerogative, maintaining the Discipline of the Church, upholding and continuing the Rebe-

rence and Solemnity of Gods Service, and encouraging Learning, (indeed plausible and honourable Notions to act any thing upon) and that upon these grounds divers mutinous Petitions have been framed in London, Kent, and other Places. Upon what Grounds would these men have Petitions framed: have so many Petitions (even against the Form and Constitution of the Kingdom, and the Lawes established) been joyfully received and accepted: And shall Petitions framed upon these Grounds be called Mutinous: hath a multitude of mean, unknown, inconsiderable, contemptible Persons about the City and Suburbs of London, had liberty to Petition against the Government of the Church, against the Book of Common Prayer, against the Freedom and Priviledge of Parliament, and been thanked for it: And shall it be called Mutiny in the gravest and best Citizens of London, in the Gentry and Commonalty of Kent, to frame Petitions

titions upon these grounds; and to
 desire to be governed by the known
 Laws of the Land, not by Orders
 and Votes of either, or both Houses:
 Can this be thought the wisdom
 and Justice of both Houses of Par-
 liament: Is it not evidently the
 Work of a Faction within or without
 both Houses, who deceive the Trust
 reposed in them, and have now told
 Us what Mutiny is, to stir Men up
 to a Care of preserving Our Preroga-
 tive, maintaining the Discipline of
 the Church, upholding and continu-
 ing the Reverence and Solemnity of
 Gods Service, encouraging of Learn-
 ing, is Mutiny: Let Heaven and
 Earth, God and Man, judge between
 Us and these Men: And however
 such Petitions are, there, called Mu-
 tinous, and the Petitioners Threat-
 ned, Discountenanced, Censured, and
 Imprisoned: If they bring such law-
 full Petitions to Us, we will gra-
 ciously receive them, and defend them
 and their Rights against what pow-

er soever, with the uttermost hazard of
Our being.

We have been the longer (to Our
very great pain) in this Answer, that
we might give the world satisfacti-
on, even in the most triviall Particu-
lars which have been objected against
Us; and that we may not be again
reproached with any more prudent O-
missions. If we have been compelled
to sharper Language then we affect,
let it be considered, how vile, how in-
sufferable Our Provocations have
been; And except to repell Force be to
assault, and to give punctuall and ne-
cessary Answers to rough and insolent
Demands, be to make Invectives,
we are confident the world will accuse
Us of too much Mildnesse; and all
Our good Subjects will think, we
are not well dealt with, and will
judge of Us, and of their own hap-
pynesse and security in Us by Our
Actions; which we desire may no
longer prosper, or have a blessing from
God upon them and Us, then they
shall

shall be directed to the glory of God,
in the maintenance of the true Pro-
testant Profession, to the preservati-
on of the Property, and the Liberty
of the Subject, in the observation of
the Laws, and to the maintenance of
the Rights and Freedom of Parlia-
ment, in the allowance and pro-
tection of all their just
Priviledges,

FINIS.



Y O R K,
Printed by *Robert Barker*, Prin-
ter to the Kings most Excellent
Majestie: And by the Assignes
of *John Bill*. 1642;



